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A CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE PAUL PICKLE PERMIT REQUEST AREA,

BAYOU DEVIEW - 7

POINSETT COUNTY, ARKANSAS
A NEGATIVE FINDING REPORT

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Memphis District

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTOR Q

Jimmy D. McNeil Staff Archeologist

December 1989

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ABSTRACT

On 1 December 1989, an intensive cultural resources survey was conducted by the Environmental Analysis Branch of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District, over approximately one acre of land of a permit area. The area was cleared but covered with grass and a gravel road. The area is located in Township 12N, Range 2E, NW, SEt of Section 6 on the Risher quadrangle map, Poinsett County, Arkansas. A literature search indicated that site 3PO224 is in the project area. A pedestrian survey of the project area failed to locate any cultural indicator or remains.

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MAPS

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Map 2	Project Area Map
Appendices I	Public Notice
Appendices II	State Archeologist Reply

INTRODUCTION

Scope of the Present Study

An intensive survey for cultural resources was conducted by Memphis District Archeologist Jimmy McNeil, on 1 December 1989 within the requested permit area adjacent to Hood Lake, Poinsett County, Arkansas. The survey was conducted because of a response to the public notice of the proposed project.

Project Description

The proposed project is located in Township 12N, Range 2E, NW, SEZ of Section 6 near Weiner, Poinsett County, Arkansas (Map 1). The project consists of the construction of a soil levee. The levee will be constructed on the existing ground level and partially on an existing gravel road. Fill material will be obtained from Hood Lake.

Environmental Setting

The project area falls within the western lowland division of the Mississippi Alluvial Valley Physiographic Province of Northeast Arkansas. The topography is flat to undulating, with low ridges or natural levees rising a few feet above the alluvial terrace. These lowlands are characterized primarily by poorly drained clay soils. The area topography is generally level to moderately sloping upland. Bottomland topography ranges from broad areas to swales and low ridges. Slopes are generally less than 1%. Drainage is generally to the southwest with the major natural drainage way being the L'Anguille River. Generally this area is well-drained through a system of natural and artificial channels (Gray and Ferguson 1977:2).

Native bottomland vegetation consists of a dense forest cover and areas of canebrakes. In swampy areas, heavy stands of bald cypress were common species. In areas which were low and wet, yet not swampy, the principal tree species were water tupelo, sweetgum, soft elm, green ash, hackberry, cottonwood, overcup oak,

and willow oak. Canebreaks were found along the borders of swamps, bayous and sloughs. Along the low ridges, stands of hardwoods consisting of hickory, pecan, white oak, red oak, blackgum and elm were found (Gray and Ferguson, 1977:59).

Results of the Records Search

The Arkansas Archeological Survey and the National Register of Historic Places were consulted. Archeological site 3PO224 was on record within the project area.

Survey Methodology and Results

The proposed permit/project area (Map 2) is approximately one acre in size. The area was covered with grass, briar and with road gravel. Overall visibility averaged 10%. Four shovel tests were dug along the length of the project (approximately 45 meters). Four shovel tests were dug outside the project area (two on either side of the project right-of-way). Solid, 2.5 cm diameter, soil cores were taken over and around the project right-of-way.

Shovel tests and core drillings showed the same profile - gray clay mixed with organics overlaying gray swamp clay. The organic layer was approximately 15 cm thick. The organics may have developed from decomposed forest soils that were plowed under and organics from farming.

No indications of prehistoric or historical cultural remains were found in either the shovel tests or the solid cores. No artifacts were found on the ground surface.

Recommendations

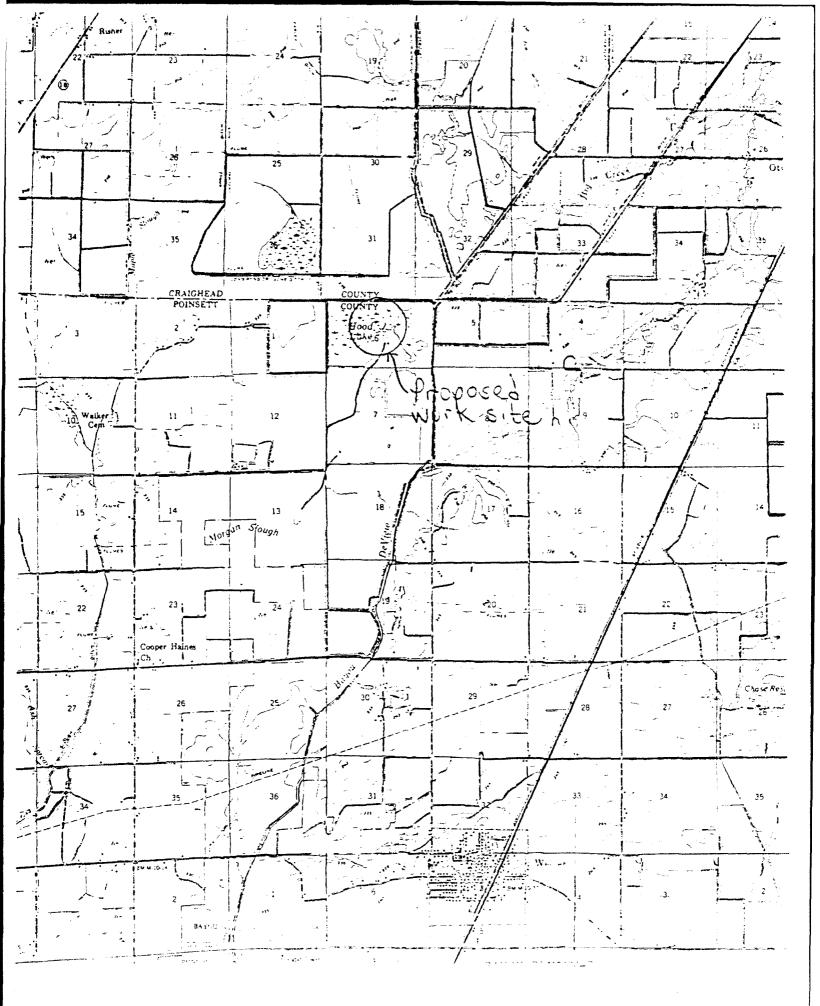
Based on all infield cultural resources surveys of the project right-of-way, it is believed that the proposed project will not affect 3PO224. However, to assure this, two stipulations will be added to the permit. They are:

- 1. All levee building materials be taken from Hood Lake
- 2. No grading, land leveling or trenching will be conducted on this portion of the levee right-of-way.

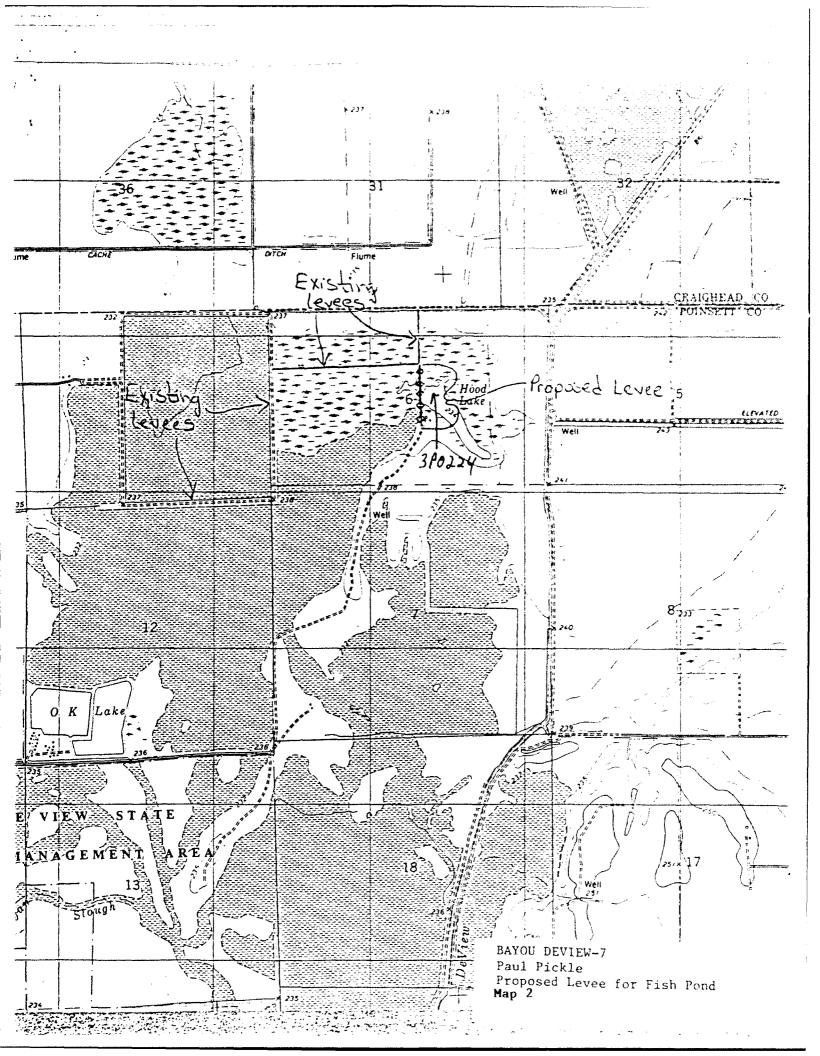
Bibliography

Gray, James L. and Dick Ferguson

1977 <u>Soil Survey of Poinsett County, Arkansas</u>. United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service.



Map 1



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY Memphis District, Corps of Engineers B-202 Clifford Davis Federal Building Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894

Bayou DeView-7

September 1, 1989

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
Corps of Engineers
and
State of Arkansas

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to 33 CFR 325, as published in the Federal Register dated November 13, 1986, notice is hereby given that Mr. Paul Pickle, Route 6, Box 188, Jonesboro, Arkansas, 72401, telephone (501) 935-4579, has made application for a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to deposit approximately 8,346 cubic yards of fill material into Hood Lake and adjacent wetlands in Poinsett County, Arkansas (see attached map). The purpose of this project is to construct a levee for a fish pond (see detailed drawings).

The levee will be 1,250 feet in length, six feet in height, a 12 foot top width with 3H:1V side slopes. A 12-inch gated culvert will be installed in the levee to control water levels for harvesting fish. Approximately 1.38 acres will be directly impacted by the levee. Water levels in the lake are lowered each year when a hunting club manages an adjacent greentree reservoir. This levee will prevent this drawdown from occuring.

The purpose of this public notice is to advise all interested parties of the proposed activity and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact on the public interest.

By copy of this public notice, the applicant is requesting water quality certification from the Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology (ADPC&E) in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Upon completion of the comment period and a public hearing, if held, a determination relative to water quality certification will be made. Evidence of this water quality certification or waiver of the right to certify must be submitted prior to the issuance of a Corps of Engineers permit. The Corps of Engineers' evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

No endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat are known to exist in the project area. This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments they may have regarding endangered or threatened wildlife or plants, or their critical habitat, will be considered in our evaluation of the described work.

The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed in the register which will be affected by the work. The consultation of the National Register will constitute the full extent of cultural resources investigation by this office unless we are made aware as a result of comments received in response to the notice or by other means of the existence of specific structures or sites which might be affected by the work. Copies of the notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property cwnership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision.

If you wish to obtain additional information or to submit comments on the application, please contact Ms. Patricia L. Jones at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, B-202 Clifford Davis Federal Building, 167 North Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894, telephone (901) 521-3471.

Comments should be forwarded to reach this office by September 22, 1989.

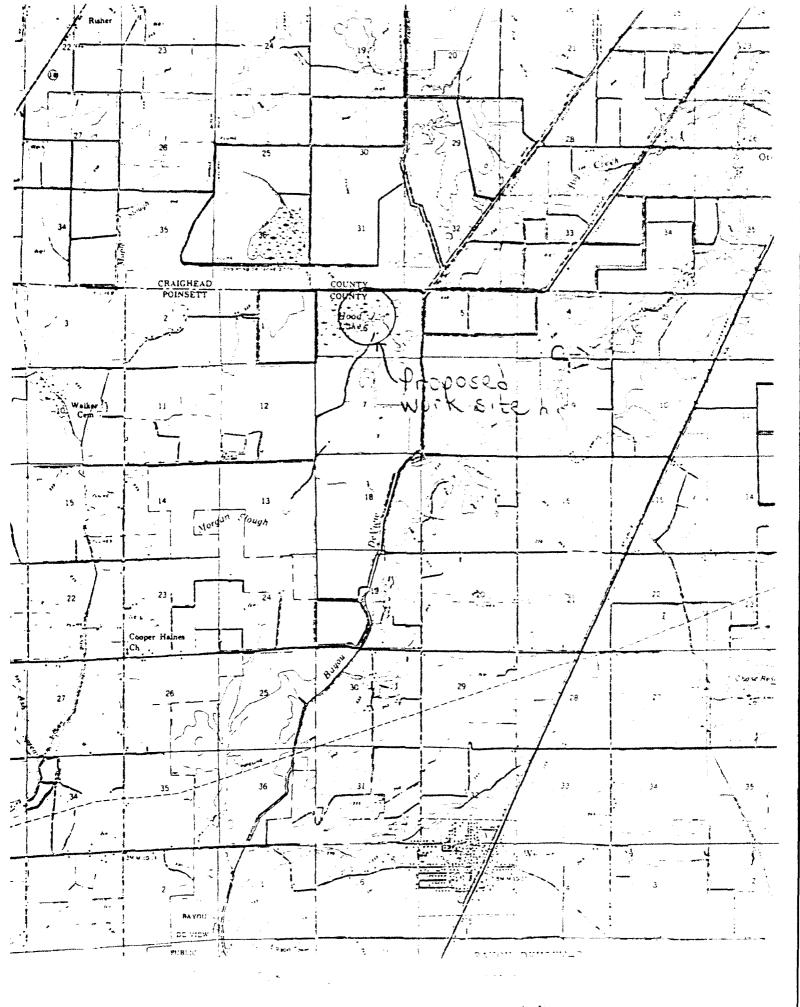
A. G. Davis

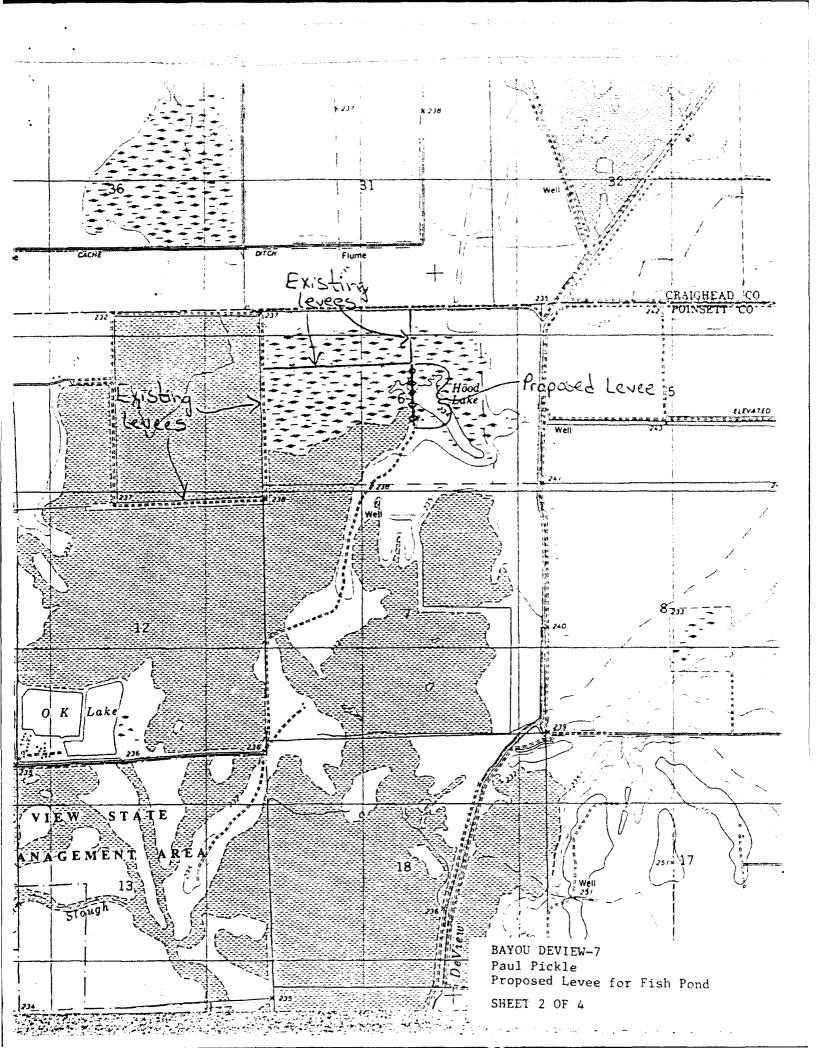
Assistant Chief

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Construction-Operations Division

Attachments





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Proposed Levee for Fish Pond

SHEET 4 OF 4



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ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

FE 1011510000404

September 27, 1989

Mr. A. G. Davis
Assistant Chief
Construction-Operations Division
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
B-202 Clifford Davis Federal Building
167 North Main Street
Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894

RE:

Poinsett County - General Environmental Review - COE Proposed Levee Construction for a Fish Pond (Bayou Deview-7)

Dear Mr. Davis:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry regarding properties of archeological, historical, or architectural significance in the area of the proposed referenced project.

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has reviewed the available material which pertains to the area in question. The staff has reported that archeological site 3P0224 (a property eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places) is located in or adjacent to the construction area. Therefore, in order to determine if this site and any unknown sites will be impacted, we recommend that a cultural resources survey be conducted of the project area.

If you have any questions, please contact George McCluskey of my staff at (501) 371-2763.

Sincerely.

Cathy Bufford

State Historic Preservation Officer

CB/GM/bc

cc: State Archeologist

Dr. Dan Morse, Arkansas Archeological Survey

Suite 200 - Heritage Center - 220 East Markham - Little Rock, Arkaness 72201 - Phone (501) 371-2763.

A Division of the Department of Arkaness Heritage.

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Appendices II